For Immediate Release May 25, 2011 Contact: Brandon Lorenz

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County Executive Chris Abele Announces Legislative Affairs Director

MILWAUKEE – County Executive Chris Abele announced today that he has hired Tia Torhorst to serve as Director of Legislative Affairs. Torhorst will work on policy issues and strengthen and maintain the administration's relationship with the Milwaukee County Board.

"I'm looking forward to finding ways to partner with the County Board to help promote economic development and create jobs," said Abele. "This decision is a sign of my commitment to change the way we do business and build a stronger working relationship with the County Board than has existed in the past."

Torhorst, a UW-Madison graduate, recently moved back to Milwaukee from Washington D.C. While in Washington D.C. she served as the outreach manager for the National Partnership for Women & Families. Prior to that, she was the Associate Executive Director of the Milwaukee Bar Association.

Following his election, Chris Abele announced the members of his transition team, which is helping to make recommendations on cabinet appointments. Abele recently announced he would retain Barry Bateman as airport director and Sue Black as director of the Milwaukee County Parks System.

Last week, Abele announced that he had hired Jeff Bentoff as Deputy Chief of staff to handle policy and communications. He also announced that he was retaining E. Marie Broussard who was named senior advisor to the County Executive.

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